GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1460
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
LOAN TO WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS
Murmu Shri Rupchand;Patil Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of women entrepreneurs sanctioned loan during the last three years ;

(b) whether women entrepreneurs and being given loan on higher rate of interest by banks than that of other agencies for running their small scale industries ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps the Government proposes to take to reduce the rate of interest for women entrepreneurs ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not collect details about the percentage of women entrepreneurs who are sanctioned loans. However, the particulars of Credit to Women by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) during the last three years is given below :

(Amount in lakh)
Credit to Women

Year ended March	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding	% to Net Bank Credit
2004	6411802	2629211.57	4.71
2005	7745628	3973284.90	5.44
2006	8161244	5122424.59	5.37

(b) to (d) RBI has deregulated the interest rates on advances above Rs. 2 lakh since October 18, 1994.The interest rates are determined by the banks themselves with the approval of their respective Board of Directors. For credit limits up to Rs. 2 lakh, banks have been allowed to charge the interest not exceeding the Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR). Accordingly, banks are now fixing interest rate to be charged to a particular borrower subject to BPLR and spread guidelines. RBI does not collect information separately regarding rate of interest charged by various banks on different type of loans and to different category of borrowers, including women entrepreneurs.